

What is claimed is:

1. A file management system for managing electronic files on one or more volumes, the file management system comprising:

a volume manager that manages the electronic files and metadata relating to such files on one or more volumes; and

means for enabling certain actions to occur automatically based on predetermined events, including changes to the metadata, to facilitate workflow.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the metadata includes automatically generated metadata and user defined metadata.

3. The system of claim 1, further comprising means for enabling automatic workflow.

4. The system of claim 1, further comprising means for enabling event-driven triggers.

5. The system of claim 1, further comprising means for enabling event-driven actions to facilitate sharing and access control of content.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the metadata includes at least one tag and wherein the system initiates actions based on changes to a value of the tag.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the system uses tags to control or specify workflow.
8. The system of claim 7, wherein the user interface comprises means for enabling a user to view or change tags.
9. The system of claim 1, wherein the system tracks movement and use of files.
10. The system of claim 1, further comprising built-in work flow, whereby various actions can trigger updates to enterprise applications and enterprise applications can the update file system.
11. The system of claim 1, wherein the actions include approval.
12. The system of claim 1, wherein the actions include computing a hash code.
13. The system of claim 1, wherein the actions include a constraint.
14. The system of claim 13, wherein the constraint requires a certain event or condition before another action can occur.
15. The system of claim 1, wherein the actions include a user programmed action.

16. The system of claim 1, wherein the actions include a predetermined system action.
17. The system of claim 1, wherein the action includes notifying a user when a file is ready for an action by the user.
18. The system of claim 17, wherein the action by the user is sign-off.
19. The system of claim 17, wherein the action by the user is review.
20. The system of claim 17, wherein the action by the user is publish.
21. The system of claim 1, wherein a dynamic folder is used to manage workflow.
22. The system of claim 1, wherein said metadata includes one or more tags associated with each of the electronic files.
23. The system of claim 22, wherein said means for enabling certain actions comprises means for initiating an action in response to a change to said one or more tags.
24. The system of claim 22, wherein said means for enabling certain actions comprises means for initiating an action in response to a user setting a value of said one or more tags.

25. The system of claim 22, further comprising means for changing a value of said one or more tags in response to a change in the associated file.